

REMARKS

After the above amendments, claims 1-12, 14-17, and 19-21 are pending. Claims 1, 10, and 17 are independent.

In the Office Action, the Examiner indicated that dependent claims 13-15 and 18 contained allowable subject matter. Applicants have amended independent claims 1, 10, and 17, to incorporate the subject matter of dependent claims 13 and 18. Applicants therefore assert that independent claims 1, 10, and 17 are now allowable.

In view of the above, it is believed that the above-identified application is in condition for allowance. Entry of the amendments and notice to that effect is respectfully requested. Should the Examiner have any questions, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned at the telephone number indicated below.

Respectfully submitted,



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